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EXAMINER

LESPERANCE, J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2774

10

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

RA

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/182,911

Applicant(s)

Barry G. Wilks

Examiner

Jean Lesperance

Group Art Unit

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☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Aug 7, 2000

☒ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claim

☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☒ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-18 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over patent # 6,018,340 ("Butler et al.") in view of patent # 5,585,821 ("Ishikura et al.")

As for claim 1, Butler et al. teach a method for supporting multiple displays per drawing surface (column 4, lines 24-25), the method comprises the steps of: a) receiving capability parameters regarding a first display of the multiple displays (column 17, lines 2-33); b) substituting selected display capabilities for the capability parameters (column 10, lines 38-53); and c) providing the selected display capabilities to an operating system (column 5, lines 19-29). Accordingly Butler et al. teach all the limitations as recited in claim 1 with the exception of providing selected display which exceed display capabilities of each of the multiple displays.

However, Ishikura et al. discloses a selected display capabilities which exceed display capabilities of each of the multiple displays (column 1, lines 19-34).

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It would have been obvious to utilize the exceeding display capabilities as taught by Ishikura et al. in the computer system disclosed by Butler et al. because this would allow the cursor to move across a plurality of display without the cursor getting out of sight.

As for claim 2, Butler et al. teach a method of claim 1 further comprises determining the selected display capabilities based on a composite of the display parameters of each of the multiple displays (column 3, lines 31-37).

As for claim 3, Butler et al. teach a method of claim 1 further comprises determining the selected display capabilities based on capabilities of a video graphics card (column 6, lines 28-39).

As for claim 4, Butler et al. teach a method of claim 1, wherein step (a) further comprises receiving the capability parameters in accordance with a system start-up (column 2, lines 24-37).

As for claim 5, Butler et al. teach a method of claim 4, wherein step (b) further comprises, in order, identifying the capability parameters as primary parameters (column 9, lines 22-34) in accordance with a first portion of the system start-up (column 3, lines 1-10); providing the capability parameters to the operating system (column 1, lines 7-17) in accordance with the first portion of the system start-up (column 3, lines 1-10); and identifying the selected display capabilities (column 9, lines 14-33) as the primary parameters (column 13, lines 4-15) in accordance with a second portion of the system start-up (column 3, lines 1-10).

As for claim 6, Butler et al. teach a method of claim 1, wherein step (a) further comprises receiving the capability parameters in response to a monitor change process (column 10, lines 20-37).

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As for claim 7, Butler et al. teach a multiple display Fig.3 supporting module (column 5, lines 19-28) comprises: a processing module (column 5, lines 55-63); and memory operably coupled to the processing module (column 1, lines 7-17), wherein the memory includes operational instructions that cause the processing module (column 5, lines 55-63) to (a) receive capability parameters regarding a first display of the multiple displays (column 17, lines 2-33); (b) substitute selected display capabilities for the capability parameters (column 10, lines 38-53); and © provide the selected display capabilities to an operating system (column 5, lines 19-29).

As for claim 8, Butler et al. teach a multiple display supporting module of claim 7, wherein the memory further comprises operational instructions that cause the processing module to determine the selected display capabilities based on a composite of the display parameters of each of the multiple displays (column 3, lines 31-37).

As for claim 9, Butler et al. teach a multiple display supporting module of claim 7, wherein the memory further comprises operational instructions that cause the processing module to determine the selected display capabilities based on capabilities of a video graphics card (column 5, lines 3-18).

As for claim 10, Butler et al. teach a multiple display supporting module of claim 7, wherein the memory further comprises operational instructions that cause the processing module to receive the capability parameters in accordance with a system start-up (column 2, lines 24-37).

As for claim 11, Butler et al. teach a multiple display supporting module of claim 10, wherein the memory further comprises operational instructions that cause the processing module ,

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in order to identify the capability parameters as primary parameters (column 9, lines 22-34) in accordance with a first portion of the system start-up (column 3, lines 1-10); provide the capability parameters to the operating system (column 1, lines 7-17) in accordance with the first portion of the system start-up (column 3, lines 1-10) ; and identify the selected display capabilities (column 9, lines 14-33) as the primary parameters (column 13, 4-15) in accordance with a second portion of the system start-up (column 3, lines 1-10).

As for claim 12, Butler et al. teach a multiple display supporting module of claim 7, wherein the memory further comprises operational instructions that cause the processing module to receive the capability parameters in response to a monitor change process (column 10, lines 20-37).

As for claim 13, Butler et al. teach a digital storage medium for storing operational instructions that cause a processing module to support multiple displays associated with a drawing surface (column 3, lines 55-65), the digital storage medium comprises: first storage means for storing operational instructions that cause the processing module to receive capability parameters regarding a first display of the multiple displays (column 3, lines 1-11); second storage means for storing operational instructions that cause the processing module to substitute selected display capabilities for the capability parameters (column 14, lines 28-43); and third storage means for storing operational instructions that cause the processing module to provide the selected display capabilities to an operating system (column 1, lines 7-17).

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As for claim 14, Butler et al. teach a digital storage medium of claim 13 further comprises means for storing operational instructions that cause the processing module to determine the selected display capabilities based on a composite of the display parameters of each of the multiple displays (column 3, lines 31-37).

As for claim 15, Butler et al. teach a digital storage medium of claim 13 further comprises means for storing operational instructions that cause the processing module to determine the selected display capabilities based on capabilities of a video graphics card (column 6, lines 28-39).

As for claim 16, Butler et al. teach a digital storage medium of claim 13 further comprises means for storing operational instructions that cause the processing module to receive the capability parameters in accordance with a system start-up (column 2, lines 24-37).

As for claim 17, Butler et al. teach a digital storage medium of claim 16 further comprises means for storing operational instructions that cause the processing module to, in order, identify the capability (column 9, 22-34) parameters as primary parameters (column 13, lines 4-15) in accordance with a first portion of the system start-up (column 3, lines 1-10); provide the capability parameters to the operating system (column 1, lines 7-17) in accordance with the first portion of the system start-up (column 3, lines 1-10); and identify the selected display capabilities (column 9, lines 14-33) as the primary parameters (column 13, lines 4-15) in accordance with a second portion of the system start-up (column 3, 1-10).

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As for claim 18, Butler et al. teach a digital storage medium of claim 13 further comprises means for storing operational instructions that cause the processing module to receive the capability parameters in response to a monitor change process (column 10, lines 20-37) .

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 8-7-2000 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicant has amended the independent claims to overcome the previous rejection but a new ground of rejection has been found. Therefore the rejection stands on that new ground.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jean Lesperance whose telephone number is (703) 308-6414. The examiner can normally be reached on from Monday to Friday between 8:00AM and 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Hjerpe, can be reached on (703) 305-4709. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-6606.


Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Jean Lesperance



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Date 9-21-00



RICHARD A. HJERPE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 2700